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Status of plague in Osaka—Use of rat typhoid.

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, April 25, 1900.

SIR: Continuing the current history of the plague in Osaka from my report of April 21, I have the honor to inform you that 3 more fatal cases have since occurred, making a total of 6 in all since the reappearance of the disease on April 8, of which, certainly, 5 have died.

In my report of January 2, I alluded to an experiment, as about to be tried in Osaka, in introducing among the rats of that city the germs of "rat typhoid (or typhus)." I have been unable to obtain any information as to the success attending this attempt at the wholesale destruction of the dangerous rodents, if it was actually made, but it is now reported that the same measure is to be tried on a large scale in the same city, and I shall endeavor to follow its results.

The total number of plague cases in Formosa, up to the 23d instant, from January 1, is given as 478, with 243 deaths.

Respectfully,

STUART ELDRIDGE, M. D.,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S., Sanitary Inspector.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.**Report from Marseilles.*

MARSEILLES, FRANCE, May 8, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit under the same cover the abstract of bills of health, and to make the usual weekly report, for the week ended May 5, 1900: May 4, bark *Clara*, Marseilles to Sapelo, in ballast, crew 11, inspected and given bill of health. May 5, steamship *Hesperia*, Marseilles to New York, via Italian ports, general cargo, crew 45, was inspected and given bill of health.

I wish to invite the attention of the Bureau to the fact that the plague has again appeared on the Mediterranean at Port Said; also that the 2 most important lines from the Orient, the Pacific and Oriental and the Messageries Maritimes, touch at 3 if not more ports infected with the plague. The ports are Hongkong, Aden, and Port Said; these lines both bring passengers and cargo to Marseilles.

Respectfully,

JOHN F. ANDERSON,

Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

MEXICO.

Report from Vera Cruz.

VERA CRUZ, MEXICO, May 12, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report for the week ended May 12: Deaths from yellow fever, 6; smallpox, 8; pernicioso, 4; all causes, 42. There were 4 cases of yellow fever reported during the week. During the past two weeks I have inspected 7 vessels, and issued them bills of health. I have issued health certificates to 216 passengers to New York and Cuba.

During the past week there has been blowing a norther, which might have had some influence on the yellow fever situation, there being fewer deaths this week than the last.

There have been some deaths from yellow fever on the isthmus of

Tehuantepec lately, and according to the last report that I received from Tampico, there were some deaths there from pernicioso and malaria.

Respectfully,

SAMUEL H. HODGSON,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

NETHERLANDS.

Report from Rotterdam.

ROTTERDAM, NETHERLANDS, *May 7, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the transactions of the Service at this port for the week ended May 5, 1900: Three vessels were inspected and received bills of health. The Holland-America Line steamship *Maasdam* sailed on the 3d instant, carrying 33 cabin and 387 steerage passengers. One hundred and ninety-seven pieces of baggage were inspected and 30 pieces disinfected.

The health of this port remains good.

Respectfully,

A. R. THOMAS,

Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

NICARAGUA.

Reports from Bluefields—Fruit port.

BLUEFIELDS, NICARAGUA, *May 7, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to make my weekly report as follows: Two steamships have been inspected, both bound to New Orleans; the *Jarl* with 2 passengers and the *Hiram* with 10 passengers. Twenty-four pieces of baggage belonging to said passengers have been disinfected under my supervision. Three deaths were reported in Bluefields this past week, 2 native adults of pulmonary tuberculosis, and 1 native adult of insolation. The port and vicinity continues to be in a satisfactory sanitary condition.

Respectfully,

D. W. GOODMAN,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

BLUEFIELDS, NICARAGUA, *May 11, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit my weekly report, as follows: Two steamships have been inspected, both for New Orleans, La., the *Alabama*, with 14 passengers, and the *Fulton*, with 1 passenger. The baggage of these passengers, 33 pieces, was disinfected under my supervision. Three deaths have been reported for the week ended May 6: One native adult of malarial fever, and 2 native infants of convulsions. Several heavy rains have relieved the intensity of the heat, and given the town a thorough cleansing as to streets and yards. The health of Bluefields and vicinity continues good.

Respectfully,

D. W. GOODMAN,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.